Agenda

9:30 am Welcome & Plan Review

10:30 am Breakout Design Groups
- Bay Trail (Blue Belt) to Wildcat Canyon (Green Belt) Connections
- Hillside Natural Area
- Fairmont Park
- Lower Fairmount Ave

12:00 pm Lunch

12:30 pm Report Back

1:30 pm Close
Related Planning Efforts
Integration With City-Wide Initiatives!

- Climate Action
- San Pablo Specific Plan
- Pedestrian & Bike Update
- Ohlone Greenwa Plan
- Urban Greenin Plan
- General Plan Update

El Cerrito Strategic Plan
Strategic Action Plan

- Deepen a sense of place and community identity
- Foster environmental sustainability citywide
Climate Action Plan

- Increase economic base to create more jobs, encourage greater vitality and more pedestrian friendly economic activity

- Continue to invest in infrastructure that invites people to walk, bike and take transit in El Cerrito

- Increase and enhance urban green open space to protect biodiversity, conserve natural resources & water, foster walking and bicycling, and improve health & quality of life

- Develop alternative transportation outreach & incentive campaigns tailored to El Cerrito
General Plan

- Quality development with distinct destination areas, including commercial areas, civic center and community places
- New development in San Pablo Ave corridor take place in mixed use activity centers & select perpendicular streets to allow more pedestrian environment.
- Increased residential development to enhance existing neighborhoods
- Access to balance automobile use with improved transit, bike and pedestrian opportunities
- Preservation & enhancement of natural features, trees, creeks, natural open spaces - and historical features
Active Transportation Plan

Figure 4-1
Proposed Sidewalk and Pathways Network

Figure 4-2
Proposed Bicycle Network
San Pablo Ave Specific Plan & EIR

– Respond to key community and City Council desires
– More implementation focused
  • Form-Based Code & Complete Street elements
    – Unique, pedestrian & transit-oriented character/sense of place
    – Public-realm and private-realm standards
  • More flexible to market feasibility
  • EIR
Community Engagement Process
Community Engagement Process
What is Urban Greening?

Funded through a Prop 84 grant, the El Cerrito Urban Greening project aims to identify **projects, policies & strategies** to create an **interconnected network of green spaces**, accommodate **infill growth** and improve **quality of life and environment** for existing and future El Cerrito residents...
Urban Greening
Overarching Framework
**Overarching Goals**

- Environmental Sustainability
- Environmental Stewardship
- Community Identity
- Active Living/Transportation
- Economic Vitality
- Urban Livability

**Objectives**

- Greener Gateways
- Enhanced Creeks
- Improved Connectivity
- Strengthened Ohlone Greenway
- Enhanced/Expanded Parks
- Enriched Natural Areas
- Active Commercial Corridors
- Stronger Higher Density Areas

**Supporting Strategies**

- Green Infrastructure
- Green Schoolyards
- Urban Agriculture
- Open Space Dev. Standards
- Trails & Paths
- re:Streets
- Sustainable Landscape & Maintenance
- Partnerships/Volunteerism
Overarching Goals

Environmental Sustainability  |  Environmental Stewardship  |  Community Identity  |  Active Living/Transportation  |  Economic Vitality  |  Urban Livability

Objectives

Greener Gateways  |  Enhanced Creeks  |  Improved Connectivity  |  Strengthened Ohlone Greenway

Active Commercial Corridors  |  Stronger Higher Density Areas  |  Enhanced/Expanded Parks  |  Enriched Natural Areas

Supporting Strategies

Green Infrastructure  |  Green Schoolyards  |  Urban Agriculture  |  Open Space Dev. Standards

Trails & Paths  |  re:Streets  |  Sustainable Landscape & Maintenance  |  Partnerships/Volunteerism
Environmental Sustainability
Environmental Stewardship
Community Identity / Urban Form
Community Identity / Sense of Place
Active Living / Active Transportation
Economic Vitality
Urban Livability
El Cerrito Urban Greening Vision Map

- City Limit
- Park
- Water
- Creek
- Burned Creek
- BART Line
- Arterial Roads
- Destination

Major Gateways
- Major Gateway
- Secondary Gateway
- Gateway Corridor

Improved Connectivity
- Existing Trail/Connection
- Potential Trail/Connection
- Multi-bi Mix
- Potential Blue-Green Connector

Enhanced/Obliterated Greenway
- Obliterated Greenway
- Activity Node

Active Commercial Corridors
- Stepping Street
- Gateway

Enhanced/Expanded Existing Parks
- Enhance Existing Park
- Potential Park Expansion
- Existing Park with Fossil enhancements

Higher Density Areas
- Intersection/Corner
- Potential Pedestrian

Enhanced Natural Areas
- Natural Area

Enhanced Creeks
- Open Creek
- Creeks Under Street ROW

Note: Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on the property owner's interest and consent.

8.01.2014
Data source: El Cerrito GIS, Alba Planning, City of Berkeley GIS
El Cerrito Urban Greening Vision Map

- City Limit
- Park
- Water
- Creek
- Burned Creek
- BART Line
- Arterial Roads
- Destination
- Major Gateway
- Secondary Gateway
- Gateway Corridor
- Improved Connectivity
  - Existing Trail/Connection
  - Potential Trail/Connection
  - Aluminum Connection
  - Potential Blue-Green Connector
- Strengthened Ohlone Greenway
  - Ohlone Greenway
  - Activity Node
- Active Commercial Corridor
  - Stepping Stone
  - Gateway
- Enhanced/Expanded Existing Parks
  - Enhance Existing Park
  - Potential Park Expansion
  - Existing Park with Physical Enhancements
- Higher Density Areas
  - Intersection/Cul-de-sac
  - Potential Pocket Park
- Enriched Natural Areas
  - Natural Area
- Enhanced Creeks
  - Open Creek
  - Creek Under Street ROW

Note: Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner’s interest and consent.

8/1/2014
Data source:
El Cerrito GSI, Alix Planning, City of Berkeley GIS
El Cerrito Urban Greening Vision Map

- City Limit
- Park
- Creek
- Burned Creek
- BART Line
- Arterial Roads
- Destination

- Major Gateways
  - Major Gateway
  - Secondary Gateway
  - Gateway Corridor

- Improved Connectivity
  - Existing Trail/Connection
  - Potential Trail/Connection
  - Multi-Modal Connection
  - Potential Blue-Green Connector

- Strengthened Okhte Greenway
  - Okhte Greenway
  - Activity Nodes

- Active Commercial Corridors
  - Stecking Street
  - Gateway

- Enhanced/Expanded Existing Parks
  - Enhance Existing Park
  - Potential Park Expansion
  - Enhancing Park with Physical Enhancements

- Higher Density Areas
  - Intersection/Cul-de-sac
  - Potential Pedestrian

- Enriched Natural Areas
  - Natural Area

- Enhanced Creeks
  - Open Creek
  - Creeks Under Street ROW

Note: Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner’s interest and consent.

0.01 2014
Data sources: El Cerrito GIS, Alisa Planning, City of Berkeley GIS
Primary Strategies
Overarching Goals

- Economic Vitality
- Community Identity
- Environmental Sustainability

Objectives

- Greener Gateways
- Enhanced Creeks
- Improved Connectivity
- Strengthened Ohlone Greenway
- Active Commercial Corridors
- Stronger Higher Density Areas
- Enhanced/Expanded Parks
- Enriched Natural Areas

Supporting Strategies

- Green Infrastructure
- Green Schoolyards
- Urban Agriculture
- Open Space Dev. Standards
- Trails & Paths
- re:Streets
- Sustainable Landscape & Maintenance
- Partnerships/Volunteerism
Greener Gateways

- Reinforce community identity and sense of place
Greener Gateways

- Improve and highlight natural elements such as creeks and urban forests at major City entrances and gateways
Enhanced Creeks

- Celebrate creeks/riparian areas through enhanced landscaping, art, signage, etc
- Foster continued environmental stewardship
Enhanced Creeks

- Create design guidelines for private projects that celebrate creeks as amenities
- Incentivize private development to daylight creeks
- Explore strategic acquisition of parcels to daylight & enhance access
Improved Connectivity

- Connect Green Belt to Blue Belt by creating strong ped-bike access to regional amenities & destinations

- Provide improved pedestrian and bike access throughout City with on-street & mid-block paths such as mews, alleys, etc

- Improve & build upon trail and pathway network
Strengthened Ohlone Greenway

- Implement Master Plan
- Focus on connectivity to San Pablo Ave, BART stations & commercial & residential areas
- Develop nodes of activity along & adjacent to Greenway to enhance its use, character and safety
Strengthened Ohlone Greenway

- Enhance overall ecological features (e.g. native landscaping, bird and pollinator friendly plantings) and connections to creeks

- Develop specific projects and Greenway improvements that implement Urban Greening goals
Active Commercial Corridors

- Create active social gathering spaces and streetscape amenities to increase walkability & attract high quality private development
- Ensure new development enhances ped & bike connectivity & provides high-quality open spaces
Active Commercial Corridors

- Complement streetscape improvements with variety of green multi-purpose open spaces (pocket parks & plazas)

- Program existing & proposed open spaces with various reStreet opportunities eg. commerce, play, pop-up gathering, etc
Enhance existing parks in higher density areas to be more multipurpose and higher quality (such as Central Park, Fairmont Park)
Stronger Higher Density Neighborhoods

- Consider the need for new parks, plazas and open space in multi-family and higher density neighborhoods
Enhanced/Expanded Existing Parks

- Enhance existing amenities and where possible add new facilities
- Integrate environmental benefits through restorative, resource-conserving landscaping
- Explore opportunities to diversify use & make parks more multipurpose
Enriched Natural Areas

- Strengthen and where needed, restore natural habitat areas in existing open spaces such as Hillside Natural Area, Canyon Trail Park.

- Build on community efforts to program and enhance natural areas (outdoor classrooms, bike parks, etc)

- Work with Trail Trekkers, Green Team, Friends of Five Creeks and others to develop and implement a sustainable maintenance plan for these natural areas
Overarching Goals

- Environmental Sustainability
- Environmental Stewardship
- Community Identity
- Active Living/Transportation
- Economic Vitality
- Urban Livability

Objectives

- Greener Gateways
- Enhanced Creeks
- Improved Connectivity
- Strengthened Ohlone Greenway
- Enhanced/Expanded Parks
- Enriched Natural Areas

Objectives

- Active Commercial Corridors
- Stronger Higher Density Areas
- Urban Livability

Supporting Strategies

- Green Infrastructure
- Trails & Paths
- Green Schoolyards
- re:Streets
- Urban Agriculture
- Sustainable Landscapes & Maintenance
- Open Space Dev. Standards
- Partnerships/Volunteerism
Green Infrastructure

- Clean stormwater: identify locations for stormwater retrofits
- Identify locations where trees & landscaping could improve livability and provide environmental benefits, such as clean air, biodiversity, birds/pollinator food supply etc.
Green Infrastructure

- Retrofit resource intensive landscapes to be more resource conserving where appropriate
- Explore energy generation
- Foster environmental stewardship
Green Schoolyards

- Work with WCCUSD on design guidelines & policies that encourage school-design and programming to better integrate facilities into neighborhoods, i.e. access connectivity, neighborhood cohesion and multipurpose/public use
- Provide children with opportunities to explore, interact with and observe nature
Urban Agriculture

– Encourage small-scale food production through adoption of new policies and design guidelines

– Create edible landscaping such as community orchards

– Encourage community gardens with new multifamily dwellings

– Build upon pilot community garden at Fairmont Park
Open Space Development Standards

- Develop new public open spaces as development occurs
- Explore variety of open spaces to meet the diverse needs of the community
- Coordinate with other planning efforts such as San Pablo Ave Specific Plan
- Ensure that existing and future community members continue to have access to adequate green and open space as development occurs
Trails and Paths

- Create and enhance a network of multi-use pathways throughout the City that connect to local and regional destinations
- Build the vitality of commercial corridors by providing access and facilities for bicyclists and pedestrians
- Coordinate with neighboring cities (Kensington, Richmond, etc) and regional organizations (EBRPD, etc)
- Build on work of local community groups to build, maintain, and map the paths, and to encourage the local community to use and appreciate the paths
re:Streets

- Strengthen sense of place and identity by creating flexible and context sensitive ‘livable’ streets
- Maximize placemaking opportunities by programming streets, sidewalks & parking lots with temporary & permanent events
- Invigorate key commercial corridors such as San Pablo Ave & Fairmount Ave by strengthening multi-modal connectivity
- Repurpose underutilized spaces in street rights of way to allow for additional uses such as play, commerce, etc
Sustainable Landscapes & Maintenance

- Develop a planting palette and maintenance framework that contributes to a healthy ecosystem while establishing a sustainable maintenance workload

- Follow Bay-Friendly guidelines for planting palette and maintenance that encourage native, pollinator-friendly, drought-tolerant plants

- Emphasize sense of place, water conservation and soil health in landscape design

- Transition high-maintenance, low-ROI landscapes to diverse, low-maintenance landscapes
Partnerships /Volunteerism

– Engage the community in stewarding public lands in partnerships with the City to increase community ownership and expand City’s limited maintenance resources

– Work with Trail Trekkers, Friends of Five Creeks and others to steward creeks and Hillside Natural Area

– Work with Green Team, Friends of Five Creeks and others to reduce trash and litter
Partnerships / Volunteerism

- Work with Community Garden Network, Garden Club to expand native plant & edible landscaping in neighborhoods

- Identify & cultivate partnerships with NGOs to steward community responsive urban greening projects

- Partner with private property & business owners etc. to provide urban greening amenities
Key Criteria for Focus Areas

- Address Multiple Urban Greening Strategies
- Result in Implementable and Funding-Eligible Projects
- Fulfill City Planning Goals and Policy Priorities
- Build off Previous Investments and Create Synergy Across Departments to Maximize Return on Investment
CITYWIDE

1. Blue to Green Connections

EXISTING PARKS

2. Ohlone Greenway – Portola to Schmidt
3. Ohlone Greenway – Gladys to Blake
4. Fairmont Park
5. Central Park
6. Creekside Park
7. Hillside Natural Area
PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNER-SHIPS

8. El Cerrito Plaza
Southern Gateway

9. Conlon Ave/ Key Blvd - Baxter Creek

10. San Pablo Ave and Cutting Blvd

11. Avila St / San Pablo Ave

12. Former Portola Middle School Site
STREET ROW

13. Ashbury Ave

14. Lower Fairmount Ave
1. Blue to Green Connections

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Connectivity**: Improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity between the area’s major natural assets—the Bay Trail and Wildcat Canyon Trail. Enhance access to major trailheads.

2. **Wayfinding and Signage**: Provide wayfinding and education signage along the blue/green connections.

3. **Street Trees**: Implement a consistent palette of street trees and other coordinated landscaping along blue/green connections to create identifiable routes.

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**Greener Gateways**
**Improved Connectivity**
**Active Commercial Corridors**
2. Ohlone Greenway - Portola to Schmidt
Ownership: Public - City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Creek Daylighting**: Continue creek restoration efforts to improve habitat and water quality benefits, and improve maintainability. Include a forebay to retain and make creek a visible amenity in this area. (see Fluvius Innominatus Restoration Channel Design Memorandum)

2. **Activity Node**: Create social gathering and play opportunities near repurposed creek. (see Ohlone Greenway Master Plan)

3. **Connectivity**: Improve connectivity along Schmidt Lane between the Hillside Natural Area and San Pablo Avenue.

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<td>Zinc: 0.002</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Improved Connectivity**
**Strengthened Ohlone Greenway**
**Enhanced Creeks**
3. Ohlone Greenway - Gladys to Blake
Ownership: Public - City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Green Gateway**: Create a gateway experience along Potrero Avenue.

2. **Biofiltration Gardens**: Repurpose small portions of the grassed greenway for water quality management. Focus on areas adjacent to existing inlets to minimize area of disturbance and costs.

3. **Connection to Greenway**: Create a mid-block connection to the Greenway from Kearney Street and San Pablo Avenue.

4. **Activity Node**: Create social gathering and play opportunities near Potrero Avenue to create an activity node and enhance the existing Bruce King Dog Park.

5. **Creek Crossing**: Highlight the creek that runs under Potrero Avenue through landscape, paving, and/or signage.

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**Annual Runoff Treated (gal/yr):** 194,161

**Pollutants Removed (lb/yr):**
- TSS: 5.07
- TKN: 0.05
- Nitrate + Nitrite: 0.01
- Zinc: 0.01

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**Greener Gateways**
**Improved Connectivity**
**Strengthened Ohlone Greenway**
**Enhanced Creeks**
4. Fairmont Park and Adjacent Ohlone Greenway Segment
Ownership: Public - WCCUSD and City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities
1. **Urban Agriculture**: Build on Earth Day pilot project to create permanent community gardens and orchards.

2. **Urban Wilderness Classroom**: Connect to Fairmont Elementary School and bring nature closer to students.

3. **Improved Play Structures and Gathering Spaces**: Enhance the existing park and attract multi-generational use.

4. **Connection to Greenway**: Create a defined entry from Liberty Street to the Greenway and park. (see Ohlone Greenway Master Plan)

5. **Connection to Park**: Create a mid-block connection between the park and Lexington Avenue and Stockton Avenue.

6. **Pacific Chorus Frog Habitat**: Protect habitat and connect to wilderness classroom activities. (see Ohlone Greenway Master Plan)

7. **Oak Grove**: Create an oak grove adjacent to the schoolyard. (per Ohlone Greenway Master Plan)
5. Central Park and Adjacent Parcel at Central and Belmont
Ownership: Private* and Public - City of Richmond** and City of El Cerrito

*Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner’s interest and consent
**Will require joint partnership with the City of Richmond

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. Creek Naturalization: Naturalize existing concrete channel to provide riparian edge and extend notion of creek to Central Park. Realign creek to provide appropriate space on both sides for channel naturalization. (Within City of Richmond)

2. Improved Play Structures and Gathering Spaces: Enhance the existing park furniture and gathering spaces to create a neighborhood destination.

3. Multi-functional Park Space: Consider programming park as multi-use space, with flexible recreation uses at different times to allow the park to serve more neighborhood residents (for example times when baseball diamond is not in peak use).

4. Green Gateway: Create a gateway experience and improve connectivity along Central Avenue.

5. Connectivity: Create a pedestrian and bicycle pathway connecting Central Park and Creekside Park

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Annual Runoff Treated (Gal/yr): 27,429
Pollutants Removed (lb/yr):
- TSS: 5.72
- Nitrate + Nitrite: 0.02
- TP: 0.02
- Lead: 0.01
- TKN: 0.04
- Zinc: 0.01
6. Creekside Park
Ownership: Public - City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Wetland**: Re-purpose existing shallow concrete pools to be functioning wetlands or other flow based treatment measure. Keep overall form of the existing feature to recognize its history. Lower bottom of feature to be consistent with adjacent creek bed and plant with water tolerant species of reeds/rushes. Confirm design will be consistent with C.3 requirements to allow for potential future LID credits. Study opportunities to provide climate change resilience through flooding relief.

2. **Enhanced Gathering Spaces**: Provide additional seating and furniture for social gathering near the play structure and repurposed wetlands.

3. **Temporary Park Expansion**: Expand park into cul-de-sacs for temporary events and play to increase park visibility and connection to surrounding neighborhoods.

4. **Connectivity and Wayfinding**: Improve wayfinding to park and build upon existing sidewalk recycled glass treatments with additional urban design and landscape improvements to lead visitors from surrounding neighborhoods and San Pablo Avenue to the park.

5. **Connectivity**: Create a pedestrian and bicycle pathway connecting Central Park and Creekside Park, and complete bridges connecting to Albany Hill.

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**Annual Runoff Treated (gal/yr):** 8,443,925
**Pollutants Removed (lb/yr):**
- TSS: 2,624.51
- Nitrate + Nitrite: 26.21
- TP: 7.13
- Lead: 3.24
- Copper: 0.69
- Zinc: 5.88

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**Improved Connectivity**
**Stronger Higher Density Areas**
**Enhanced/Expanded Parks**
**Enhanced Creeks**
**Enriched Natural Areas**
7. Hillside Natural Area and Madera Property
Ownership: Private* and Public - City of El Cerrito

*Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner's interest and consent

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. Connectivity: Improve trail connections between natural areas, and close gaps.

2. Park Enhancement: Continue to expand natural area to create connected park system into areas such as the Madera property and PG&E right-of-way.


4. Creeks: Enhance and highlight riparian corridors that run through the natural area.

5. Green Gateways/Staging Areas: Create an gateway experience at key park entryways.

6. Trails: Consider formalizing desire lines into a pedestrian trail system through the PG&E right-of-way to enhance connections to Hillside Natural Area.

7. Green Infrastructure: Repurpose portions of the right-of-way for water quality management.

8. Active Recreation: Provide opportunities for active recreation, such as bicycle trails, parks or other amenities.

*Private property highlighted in purple.
8. El Cerrito Plaza

Ownership: Private* and Public - City of El Cerrito

*Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner’s interest and consent

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. Green Gateway: Create an identifiable gateway experience at the southern entry to the City along San Pablo Avenue.

2. Creekside Trail: Improve connectivity of creekside trail east and west of San Pablo Avenue through a mid-block crossing.

3. Neighborhood Park: Consider incorporating a neighborhood park to serve this higher density neighborhood in underutilized spaces adjacent to the greenway.

4. Biofiltration Gardens: Repurpose small portions of the street right-of-way for water quality management. Focus on areas adjacent to existing inlets to minimize area of disturbance and costs.

5. Commercial Corridors: Activate the corridors along San Pablo Avenue and Fairmount Avenue.

6. Enhance Creeks: Establish or enhance riparian corridors along edges where creeks exist building on previous work and proposed creek daylighting with Creekside Walk development.

7. Connectivity: Improve Connections to the Ohlone Greenway from Albany Middle School and planned Creekside Walk project.
9. Conlon Avenue/Key Boulevard ROW and Lot
Ownership: Private* and Public - City of El Cerrito

*Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner’s interest and consent

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Pocket Park**: Repurpose the excess street right-of-way to create a pocket park with furnishings and space for social gathering and as a gateway to the Ohlone Greenway.

2. **Neighborhood Park**: Consider converting vacant lot to a neighborhood park with social gathering spaces, play spaces and other recreation opportunities.

3. **Pollinator Pathway**: Establish a pollinator pathway up Conlon Ave. Between the Ohlone Greenway and Canyon Trail Park.

4. **Creeks**: Highlight the creek that runs under Conlon Avenue through landscape, paving, and/or signage.

Additional notes: Greening opportunities could be considered in aggregate or as separate projects pending site and funding availability. Traffic calming measures at Conlon and Key should be considered along with urban greening improvements.
10. Cutting/San Pablo Avenue Lot
Ownership: Private** and Public - City of El Cerrito

*Any opportunities on a private parcel will be dependent on property owner’s interest and consent

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. Pocket Park: Create increased activity and open space along San Pablo Avenue and near the BART station to encourage social gathering and economic development.

2. Temporary Pop-up Park: Encourage short-term activities such as community events, food vendors, and seasonal commercial to activate the vacant lot until a permanent pocket park can be planned and constructed as part of future development.

3. Green Infrastructure: Repurpose small portions of the street right-of-way on San Pablo Avenue for water quality management. Focus on areas adjacent to existing inlets to minimize area of disturbance and costs. Dependent on property owner’s interest and consent.

4. Green Gateway: Create a gateway experience along Cutting Boulevard towards the El Cerrito del Norte BART Station. Consider planting large trees to enhance the gateway as part of future development.

*Private property highlighted in purple. Improvements likely as part of future development.
11. Avila Street/San Pablo Avenue Cul-de-sac

Ownership: Private** and Public - City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Pocket Park**: In partnership with private development, repurpose the cul-de-sac to create a pocket park with furnishings and space for social gathering.

2. **Connectivity**: Enhance mid-block pedestrian and bicycle connection to San Pablo Avenue.

3. **Activity Node**: Plant shade trees and install seating and tables to encourage active use along San Pablo Avenue.

*Private property highlighted in purple. Improvements likely as part of future development.
12. Ashbury Avenue - Brighton to Lynn
Ownership: Public - City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. Edible Orchard: Create an edible orchard within the existing large median to attract public use of the street right-of-way and provide an urban agriculture opportunity. (Will require a strong community organization to steward the orchard).

2. Biofiltration Gardens: Repurpose a small portion of the grassed median for water quality management. Focus areas adjacent to existing inlets to minimize area of disturbance and costs.

3. Pollinator Pathway: Establish a pollinator pathway along Ashbury Avenue.

4. Social Gathering: Create areas for seating and social gathering. Also encourage use of median and street right-of-way for community events.

5. Improved Maintenance: Replace water-intensive grass with native and drought-tolerant landscaping to reduce resource use and improve maintainability.

Annual Runoff Treated (gal/yr): 117,774
Pollutants Removed (lb/yr):
- TSS: 77.30
- Nitrate + Nitrite: 0.11
- TP: 0.07
- Lead: 0.05
- TKN: 0.68
- Copper: 0.02
- Zn: 0.10

Improved Connectivity
Enriched Natural Areas
Enhanced/Expanded Parks
13. Lower Fairmount Corner
Ownership: Public - City of El Cerrito

Urban Greening Opportunities

1. **Pocket Parks**: Explore opportunity to vacate, partially vacate, or reconfigure street and convert to downtown plaza/park space for social gathering, pop-up uses, and play.

2. **Connectivity**: Enhance pedestrian and bicycle connections to San Pablo Avenue by providing additional facilities and on-street amenities that encourage strolling and community gathering.

3. **Activity Node**: Plant shade trees and install seating and tables to encourage active use along San Pablo Avenue.

4. **reStreets**: Consider opportunities for green infrastructure, small-scale urban agriculture, and events and programs, and use wayfinding and signage for distinctive image and identity.

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**Greener Gateways**
**Improved Connectivity**
**Active Commercial Corridors**
**Stronger Higher Density Areas**
14. Former Portola Middle School
Ownership: Public - WCCUSD, and subject to negotiations between the City of El Cerrito and WCCUSD

Urban Greening Opportunities
1. **New Park:** Create multifunctional community park which connects to and enhances the use of the Community Center and Cerro Vista
2. **Biofiltration Gardens:** Repurpose a small portion of the grassed median on Moeser Avenue for water quality management. Focus areas adjacent to existing inlets to minimize area of disturbance and costs.
3. **Social Gathering:** Create areas for seating and social gathering. Also encourage use of median and street right-of-way for community events.
4. **Recreation:** Provide space for active and passive recreation
5. **Urban Agriculture:** Develop a community garden program to provide urban agriculture
Charrette Opportunity Sites
Breakout Design Groups Focus Areas

- Bay Trail (Blue Belt) to Wildcat Canyon (Green Belt) Connections
- Hillside Natural Area
- Fairmont Park
- Lower Fairmount Ave
Breakout Design Groups Focus Areas

- Overall Vision / Character, etc?

- Key Programming Elements, Activities, Settings, etc

- Location of Elements, Routes, etc

- Maintenance Strategies
Blue Green Connections | Charrette Work Map

El Cerrito Urban Greening
Blue Green Connections

- City Limit
- Creek
- Bounded Green
- BART Line
- Arroyo Road
- Railroad
- Potential Blue-Green Connector

Wildcat Canyon Regional Park
Wildcat Creek Trail
El Cerrito

Richmond
Albany
Kensington
existing site

Potrero Ave, looking east
Moeser Lane, looking northeast
Fairmount Ave, looking west

emerging opportunities

Bay Trail Connectivity
Wildcat Canyon Connectivity
Ohlone Greenway Connectivity
Blue Green Connections | Conditions + Opportunities

Existing site

Potrero Ave, looking east

Moeser Lane, looking northeast

Fairmount Ave, looking west

Emerging opportunities

Wayfinding and Signage

Street Trees and Landscaping

Distinctive Trailheads
existing site
emerging opportunities

Bike Park and Recreation
Trails
Accessible Trails
Amphitheater
Outdoor Classrooms
Day Camp
emerging opportunities

Natural Habitat Preservation
Creek Restoration
Oak Savanna
Interpretive Wayfinding
Green Gateways
Regulated Uses
emerging opportunities

Safe Routes to School

Fire Fuel Reduction

Vista Points

Outdoor Exploration

Other ___________________________

Other ___________________________

el cerrito urban GREENING
Fairmont Park | Key Area Plans

Fairmont Elementary School reconstruction

Proposed View at Kearney and Stockton

Proposed Program Areas

Proposed Site Plan

Ohlone Greenway Master Plan

Section 1

Existing Site Conditions

Area 2 - Central Avenue to Stockton Avenue

Proposed Area Connection Improvements

Site Specific Character Images

Conceptual Design Study: Site 2a

Site 2a - East of Fairmont Park, Senior Center, and Library
existing site
emerging opportunities

Urban Agriculture

Urban Wilderness Classroom

Improved Play Area, Tot Lot, and Gathering Spaces

Connections to Greenway

Connections to Park

Pacific Chorus Frog Habitat
Lower Fairmount | Aerial and Charrette Work Map

Pastime Ace Hardware

State Route 123

To El Cerrito Plaza BART

Right of Way and Charrette Design Area

Lower Fairmount

Private Property

El Cerrito Urban Greening
Lower Fairmount

Carlson Blvd

San Pablo Ave
existing site

emerging opportunities

Enhanced Pedestrian Connectivity
Enhanced Bike Connectivity
Parklets
emerging opportunities

reStreets Temporal Spaces

reStreets Gathering Spaces

Median Plaza

Removable Bollards

Other

Other
Breakout Design Groups Focus Areas

- Overall Vision / Character, etc?

- Key Programming Elements, Activities, Settings, etc

- Location of Elements, Routes, etc

- Maintenance Strategies